

The recent sharp dispute over the condition of the German army was a natural accompaniment to the army's rapid growth. Once again a German military force reappears and becomes a significant factor both within Germany itself and in the European power equilibrium. Though less than a decade old (the first officers were commissioned in November 1955), the Bundeswehr now numbers 400,000 men: 220,000 career professionals, the rest draftees.

Abroad

All regular units—the small but expanding air force and navy as well as the twelve army divisions—are assigned to NATO. To guard against a resurgent German militarism of the old style, the principle of "inner leadership," stressing individual understanding, civic responsibility and voluntary cooperation is supposed to take the place of "mechanical discipline," and is being taught at a large training school in Coblenz. A parliamentary commissioner for the Bundeswehr, acting as a kind of military Ombudsman, accepts complaints from the ranks. The present commissioner, Vice Admiral Heye, led off the current argument with articles in the Munich weekly, *Quick*, criticizing "the trend to becoming a state within a state." But not a few NCO's and officers are more than a little skeptical about running an army by "inner leadership."

COPENHAGEN

Operation Confusion

The Earl Warren Commission has apparently handled with appropriately cold objectivity the obfuscations of New York attorney Mark Lane concerning Lee Harvey Oswald. But Mr. Lane has elsewhere found more sympathetic ears. In Britain, Bertrand Russell was induced to sponsor formation of the "Who Killed Kennedy Committee," now in action under the secretaryship of James D. Garst, who is prone to compare the Oswald to the Dreyfus case. A branch of WKKC has just appeared in Denmark, another in France; and sister organizations will soon sprout in many other countries.

ISTANBUL

Westward Ho

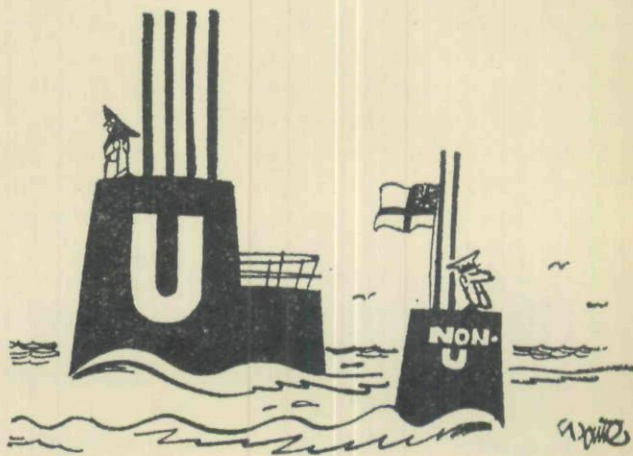
Every week a train carrying 800 Turks leaves for Munich. The passengers debark, and fan out to the factories, mines, shipyards and construction sites of Frankfurt, Hamburg, Cologne, Stuttgart and Essen. There are about 60,000 Turks now in Germany and another 25,000 in the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and Austria. They are pushed west by the unemployment at home, and pulled by a European wage rate eight to ten times the Turkish. They are mostly peasants and devout Moslems. Their absolute taboo against the pig or anything (pot, dish or spoon, for example) that might have touched a substance derived from pig creates curious problems in countries where ham and sausage are so conspicuous in the diet.

The Turks require a mosque instead of a church; not a priest but an imam; the Koran, not the Bible. In Frankfurt, Munich and Hamburg mosques have in fact been built, and are elsewhere under construction. A number of factories have established special rooms with prayer rugs for the daily prayers. There is also a traveling railroad mosque. The Turkish newcomers find other problems: the heavy traffic in place of ox carts and donkeys; the lofty status of women, who even remain seated while men stand in a streetcar; the Indo-European language (Budapest radio has been more alert than German radio in providing Turkish language programs). But the Turks do good work and adapt surprisingly fast. Many observers wonder whether they may not prove a heady yeast when they get back home.

LONDON

Nationalization Ahead

The Labor Party, odds-on favorite to win the general election this autumn, has made official its plans for nationalization. It will nationalize (actually, renationalize, since it was done once before by a Labor government) all major firms in the steel industry; the water supply operations, many of which are now in private hands; over-the-road transport; and all land used for housing. The last means that no private citizen will henceforth own his own home in freehold. Conservative experts believe steel nationalization, with its tendency to raise costs, will have a disastrous effect on major exports the British economy depends on.



Waite, London Daily Sketch

Ben Roth Agency

SAIGON

More Torches Ahead?

Once again, as in the weeks prior to the Diem assassination, political agitation against the anti-Communist struggle is being whipped up among South Vietnam's Buddhists. Now, of course, General Nguyen Khanh has replaced Diem as prime individual target. The anti-Khanh, anti-American and pro-neutralist slogans coincide with the current demands of the Communist-controlled National Liberation Front, of de Gaulle and of Cambodia's Prince Sihanouk. Conspicuous among the Buddhist political operators is Thich Tri Quang, the monk to whom Henry Cabot Lodge gave asylum in the U.S. embassy during the pre-assassination month.

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